

# Feasibility Study on the Establishment of a College of Law in the University of Northern Philippines, Vigan City, Ilocos Sur: An Executive Summary'

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## Introduction

### Background/Rationale

- In Ilocos Sur and Abra, there is no Law school.
- Tuition fees of law schools in Metro Manila are prohibitive.
- Yet, there are many among our youths, students, or employees in the province raring to be lawyers but cannot become one for lack of a law school in the locality.

### Past Efforts on the Establishment of a College of Law

- The Ilocos Sur Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) passed SP Resolution No. 180 s. 1989 requesting the University of Northern Philippines (UNP) through the Board of Regents (BOR) to establish the College of Health Sciences and the College of Law.
- The UNP BOR approved the resolution, provided a feasibility study (FS) be prepared in November 1989. So, an FS was prepared by the UNP Center for Research.
- In the summer of 1990, however, Senators Orlando Mercado and Tito Sotto and then DOH Secretary Flavio opined that the CHS was more urgent. Thus, the plan to put up the College of Law was shelved.
- In 1999, a survey was conducted among UNP graduates and employees of the government in Metro Vigan. The results showed the overwhelming desire to establish the College of Law. So, the updating of the FS was initiated.

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" Presented by Dr. Ferdinand J. Lamarca during the Academic Council Meeting held in the University Auditorium, University of Northern Philippines, Vigan City on June 8, 2001.

- Recently, the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP), Ilocos Sur Chapter, prepared a resolution endorsing the establishment of the School of Law and stipulating its unconditional support to make available its resources, such as lawyers who will become professors and its library. It has prepared the curriculum including the syllabi and provided the list of faculty.

## Objectives

This feasibility study sought to determine the potentials of the UNP in putting up a School of Law considering the following aspects: marketing, management, technical, financial, and socio-economic aspects.

## Findings and Discussion

### Marketing Aspects

This aspect sought to determine the demand for the establishment of the School of Law. Demand is determined in terms of the number of prospective enrollees as captured by a survey among graduates of this University and employees of the government conducted in 1999 as well as the number of cases in the courts vis-a-vis the number of prosecutors in Vigan City, Ilocos Sur.

UNP graduates. Table I shows that out of 296 student-respondents, 98.30% favored the establishment of a School of Law in UNP. On the other hand, 82.44% wanted to pursue the Degree of Bachelor of Law in UNP. Further, it shows that most of those who were interested in pursuing the degree were students from the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), College of Business Administration and Accountancy (CBAA), and Institute of Criminology (IC).

Table 1. Distribution of student-respondents who either favored or disfavored the establishment of a School of Law in UNP, SY 1999-2000.

ITEM	RESPONSE				TOTAL	
	FAVOR		DISFAVOR		NO.	%
	NO.	%	NO.	%		
Establishment of the School of Law	291	98.3	5	1.7	296	100.0
Desire to pursue Bachelor of Law in UNP	244	82.4	52	17.6	296	100.0

**Employees.** Shown in Table 2 are the responses of the employees of the government agencies interviewed as to whether or not they favored the establishment of the School of Law in the University. Of the 248 respondents, about 97% favored its

establishment while 71% wished to enroll in this course in the University should it be opened.

**Table 2. Distribution of employee-respondents who either favored or disfavored the establishment of a School of Law in UNP, SY 1999-2000.**

ITEM	RESPONSE				TOTAL	
	FAVOR		DISEAVOR		NO.	%
	NO.	%	NO.	%		
Establishment of the School of Law	240	96.8	8	3.2	248	100.0
Desire to pursue Bachelor of Law in .....	176	71.0	72	30.0	248	100.0

Tuition fees. Table 3 shows the tuition and other fees of different schools of law in Region I, CAR, and Metro Manila. It also presents the fees of the proposed UNP School of Law. Clearly, the fees to be charged by the University will be lower than those charged by the lowest-charging school in Region I and CAR and very much lower than those charged by schools in Metro Manila.

**Table 3. Tuition fees of Schools of Law in Region I, CAR, and Metro Manila, and those of the proposed UNP School of Law.**

FEES	LAW SCHOOL IN REGION I AND CAR			LAW SCHOOLS IN METRO MANILA				PRO- POSAL
	NWU Laoag City	BCF Baguio City	SLU Baguio City	Ateneo	UP	UST	San Beda	UNP
Tuition fee for 17 units/sem	293/unit 4,987.63	273/unit 4,664.40	329/unit 5,600.28					250/unit 4,250.00
Registration fee	146.39	250.00	425.49					100.00
Publication	72.60							
Library	188.66	300.00	723.10					200.00
Medical	69.87	60.00	65.53					50.00
Dental	76.23	.....	26.02					50.00
Athletic	76.23	150.00	72.20					
Guidance	76.23	80.00						
Audio-visual fee	154.66							
Cultural devt. fee	69.87							
Exam. fee	44.46							
Prisaa fee	20.00	20.00						
Internal access fee	250.00							525.00
Others	100.00	30.00	57.12					50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,332.83</b>	<b>5,594.40</b>	<b>6,969.74</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>5,225.00</b>

Cases. Table 4 shows the number of cases/problems occurring in every Municipal Circuit Trial Court (MCTC), Municipal Trial Court (MTC), and Regional Trial Court (RTC) located in Ilocos Sur alone, and Table 5 shows the number of prosecutors available in the province of Ilocos Sur which prove the need for more lawyers to minimize or discard great backlog of pending cases in the courts.

**Table 4. Cases and problems in Trial Courts in Ilocos Sur, 1994-1998.**

COURT	NUMBER OF CASES PER YEAR				
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Magsingal Circuit Trial Courts	457	414	495	489	527
Municipal Trial Courts	322	349	407	454	329
Regional Trial Courts	407	417	403	523	496
Total	1,186	1,180	1,305	1,466	1,352

**Table 5. Number of prosecutors in Ilocos Sur, Year 1994-1998.**

	YEAR				
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Number of prosecutors	9	8	8	8	7

**Management Aspect**

The proposed School of Law will constitute one academic unit of the University of Northern Philippines, now a highly-recognized state university in Region I. It will be independent from other existing colleges and institutes. As an academic unit, it shall be governed both by the state and institutional laws or policies, institutional rules, and regulations embodied in the University Code. Its management will follow the official set up and the standard procedures duly approved by the UNP Board of Regents.

**Qualifications.** The qualifications of the staff of the proposed school shall depend on the Legal Education Board, but will most likely be the following:

1. Dean (Full-time with 20 hours a week)
  - a. He must be a full-fledged lawyer and preferably but not necessarily, a Master of Laws degree holder.
  - b. He must have served as administrator with a high integrity for at least five years.
  - c. He must be proficient in communication especially in English and Filipino.

2. Faculty (Part-time and Full-time)
  - a. He must be a full-fledged lawyer of good standing in the community.
  - b. He must have 60% of practice in the subject he teaches.
  - c. He must be proficient in communication especially in English and Filipino.
  - d. He must have a teaching experience of one year with a very satisfactory performance.
3. Clerk/Secretary
  - a. He/she must be computer literate.
4. Librarian
  - a. He/she must be a graduate in BS Library Science.

Figure 1 shows the proposed organizational structure of the UNP School of Law.

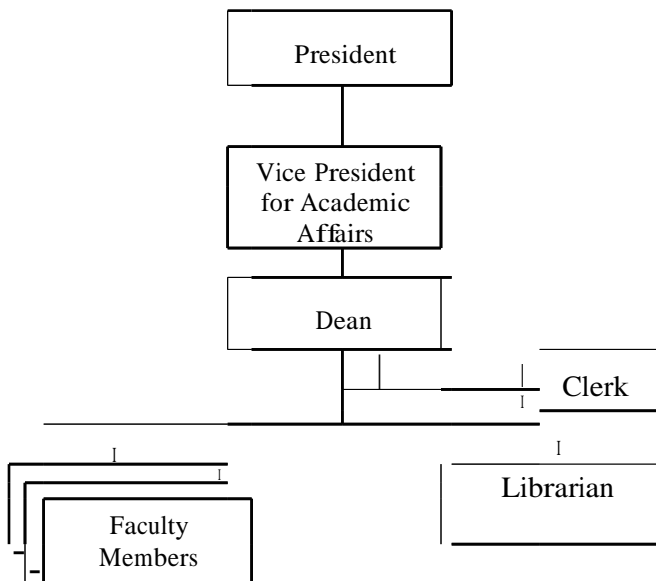


Figure 1. Proposed UNP School of Law Organizational Chart

## Technical Aspect .

**Location.** Classes will be held temporarily at the UNP Graduate School after office hours. However, a building of its own will be built at the back of the University Main Library when finances will warrant in the future.

## Financing and Financial Aspects

This portion of the feasibility study presents and analyzes the costs and financing schemes for the proposed School of Law. Since one of the thrusts of the government today is re-orienting the premises of public higher education towards self-reliance, this proposed undertaking is envisioned to be self-sustaining with minimal subsidy, if at all, from the national government. Table 6 presents the assumptions of the financial analysis while Table 7 shows the financial statement.

**Table 6. Assumptions of financial analysis.**

PARTICULARS	AMOUNT ANNUUM (G)	REMARKS
<b>Expenses</b>		
Personal Services		Basic • P15,000/month
Dean		ACAPERA - P 1,000/month P16,000
Faculty		with 6 unit teaching load
\$Y 2002 -03	39,600	1 sem: 11 units = 198hrs x P200/hour
	46,800	24 sem: 13 units = 234 hrs x P200/hour
	86,400	
SY 2003-04	58,500	1 sem: 13 units = 234 hrs x 250/hour
	<b>58,500</b>	2 sem: 13 units = 234 hrs x 250/hour
	117,000	
SY 2004-05	58,000	1 sem: 13 units = 234 hrs x 250/hour
	58,500	24 sem: 13 units = 234 hrs x 250/hour
	117,000	
SY 2005-06	58,000	1 sem: 13 units = 234 hrs x P250/hour
	63,000	28 sem: 14 units = 252 hrs x P250/hour
	121,000	
Clerk/Secretary	52,800	1 year. P200/day x 22 days/mo
	58,080	24 year. P220/day x 22 days/mo
	63,360	34 year. P240/day x 22 days/mo
	68,640	4 year. P260/day x 22 days/mo
Lbrarian	52,800	14 year. P200/day x 22 days/mo
	58,080	2\$ year. P220/day x 22 days/mo
	63,360	34 year. P240/day x 22 days/mo
	68,640	4 year. P260/day x 22 days/mo
MOOE and Capital Outlay		For 1 year of operation, MOOE & CO will be subsidized by the University
Administrative Cost		Subject to availability of funds
<b>Income</b>		Fees
		Tuition = P210/unit
		Miscellaneous= P970
	209,000/sem	17 units = P5,225/sem x 40 students
	229,000/sem	19 units = P5,725/sem x 40 students
	239,000/sem	20 units = P5,975/sem x 40 students

Table 7 shows that for the first and second year, the University will be subsidizing with P648,400 and P10,560, respectively. In the succeeding years, however, gains will be attained. After the fourth year, an income of P138,200 will be generated.

Table 7. Financial statement, SY 2002-03 to 2005-06.

PARTICULARS	AMOUNT (P) PER SCHOOL YEAR			
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
<b>Personal Services</b>				
Dean	192,000	192,000	192,000	192,000
Clerk	52,800	58,080	63,080	68,640
a Faculty	86,400	203,400	320,400	441,400
a Librarian	52,800	58,080	63,080	68,640
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>384,000</b>	<b>511,560</b>	<b>638,560</b>	<b>770,680</b>
<b>MOOE</b>				
Supplies	24,000	30,000	40,000	50,000
a Travel	24,000	30,000	40,000	50,000
Communication	24,000	30,000	40,000	50,000
a Utilities	30,000	35,000	40,000	50,000
a Training	30,000	40,000	50,000	50,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>132,000</b>	<b>165,000</b>	<b>210,000</b>	<b>250,000</b>
<b>Capital Outlay</b>				
o 1 set SCRA	300,000			
a 1 set Phil. Reports	50,000			
a 1 set Civil Laws	60,000			
Other Materials	50,000	50,000	50,000	100,000
1 unit Computer with printer	60,000			
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>570,00</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>
Administrative Cost		180,000	180,000	180,000
<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>180,000</b>	<b>180,000</b>	<b>180,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,086,000</b>	<b>906,560</b>	<b>1,078,560</b>	<b>1,300,680</b>
<b>INCOME</b>				
Tuition and Other Fees	438,000	896,000	1,354,000	1,822,000
<b>Net Cash Flow</b>	<b>(648,400)</b>	<b>(10,560)</b>	<b>275,440</b>	<b>521,320</b>
Net Benefit = 138,200				

## Socio-Economic Aspect

### A. Social Aspect

Accessibility of a School of Law to the people in the provinces of Ilocos Sur and Abra will forge closer ties between parents and children.

Furthermore, the establishment of a School of Law in UNP will also provide these students a sense of security and safety from the snares of poor housing conditions and polluted environment which have beset the city.

### **B. Economic Aspect**

- a The savings to be generated by families may be spent for more productive endeavors.
- a It will help in the economic upliftment of the place. It provides job opportunities.  
It will open venues for means of livelihood for the people in the locality.

## **Conclusion**

With the foregoing data and information, the establishment of a School of Law in the University of Northern Philippines, Vigan City, Ilocos Sur, is very feasible.

## **Annexes**

### **A. Admission Policies**

1. Incoming freshmen should be screened through an Admission Examination to determine their level of fitness to enter the College.
2. In the process of assessing their credentials the dean or a Selection Committee composed of faculty members shall attend to them personally.
3. The entrance examination should measure the intelligence, aptitude, and English skills of the examinee. An interview of the applicant must be conducted as a prerequisite to his admission.
4. Students who want to pursue a law degree/course must satisfy the following basic academic requirements:
  - 4.1. He/she must be a holder of at least a four-year Bachelor of Arts degree. Students who are holders of any four-year degree course in the following fields can also be admitted:
    - a. Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) or Bachelor of Science in Commerce in any major field
    - b. Bachelor of Science in Accountancy (BSA)
    - c. Bachelor of Science in Criminology (BSCrim)
    - d. Other BS degrees like BS in Journalism, BS in Psychology, etc.



4.2. He/she must have earned at least the following:

- a. English - 12 units
- b. Math -6 units
- c. Social Sciences -18 units
- d. Filipino - 6 units;
- e. CMT (for male only)- 6 units

He/she must be required to present certificates of eligibility for admission to the regular law course together with other valid admission credentials. This is to avoid admission of unqualified students.

**B. Curriculum**

FIRST YEAR

First Semester			Second Semester		
Course No.	Descriptive Title	Units	Course No.	Descriptive Title	Units
Law 111	Persons and Family Relations	3	Law 121	Obligations & Contracts	4
Law 112	Constitutional Law I	4	Law 122	Constitutional Law II	3
Law 113	Criminal Law I	4	Law 123	Criminal Law II	3
Law 114	Legal Profession and Ethics	3	Law 124	Law on Public Corporation	3
Law 115	Legal Research and Writing	3	Law 125	Environmental Law	2
			Law 126	Statutory Construction	2
			Law 127	Special (Criminal) Laws	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>

SECOND YEAR

First Semester			Second Semester		
Course No.	Descriptive Title	Units	Course No.	Descriptive Title	Units
Law 211	Property	4	Law 221	Negotiable Instrument Law	5
Law 212	Criminal Procedure	4	Law 222	Credit Transactions	3
Law 213	Sales and Related Special Laws	3	Law 223	Administrative Law	3
Law 214	Law on Transportation	2	Law 224	Torts and Damages	3
Law 215	Labor Law, Agrarian Law and Social Legislation	3	Law 225	Labor Relations	3
Law 216	Election Law	2	Law 226	Public International Law	2
Law 217	Law on Natural Resources	2	Law 227	Law on Intellectual Property	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>

THIRD YEAR

First Semester			Second Semester		
Course No.	Descriptive Title	Units	Course No.	Descriptive Title	Units
Law 311	Civil Procedure	5	Law 321	Evidence	5
Law 312	Succession	4	Law 322	Corporation	4
Law 313	Partnership and Agency	3	Law 323	Taxation II	3
Law 314	Taxation I	3	Law 324	Conflict of Laws	2
Law 315	Insurance	2	Law 325	Special Proceedings	2
Law 316	Land Titles and Deeds	2	Law 326	Legal Medicine	1
			Law 327	Advanced Legal Writing/Forms	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>

## FOURTH YEAR

First Semester			Second Semester		
Course No.	Descriptive Title	Units	Course No.	Descriptive Title	Units
Law 411	Constitutional Law Review	4	Law 421	Remedial Law Review II	5
Law 412	Criminal Review	4	Law 422	Civil Law Review II	4
Law 413	Civil Law Review I	3	Law 423	Commercial Law Review	4
Law 414	Labor Law Review	3	Law 424	Special Commercial Laws	2
Law 415	Taxation Law Review	3	Law 425	Practice Court II (40 hours)	2
Law 416	Practice Court I (40 hours)	2	Law 426	Special Criminal Laws	2
Total		19	Total		20

## Acknowledgment

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